


REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the patent application. By this preliminary amendment, the specification is revised to correspond to the figures. In particular, the specification has been revised to remove references to FIGS. 1C and 1D, which have been renumbered as FIGS. 1A and 1B in connection with the Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections, filed simultaneously herewith. No new matter has been added. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

GLENN T. BARRETT
Reg. No. 38,705
Tel. No. (703) 905-2011
Fax No. (703) 905-2500
CHRISTOPHE F. LAIR
Reg. No. 54,248
Tel. No. (703) 905-2097

GTB/CFL
Date: May 20, 2004
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000

Attachment: Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections including FIGS. 1C-1D